

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the above-identified application, these claims have been subjected to a Unity of Invention Requirement as follows:

Group I -- claims 1-5 and 11-16 directed to a method for the manufacture of a hinge-lid box; and

Group II -- claims 6-10 and 17-20 directed to a method for gluing the collar to the hinge-lid box.

Responsive Election

Applicant elects the subject matter of Group I, i.e. claims 1-5 and 11-16. This election is made with a traversal based on the reasons stated below.

Reasons in Support of Traversal

The above-noted Unity of Invention Requirement is respectfully traversed. It is submitted that the subject matter of Groups I and II share a "special technical feature" since both of these claim groups recite that the collar is glued to the hinge-lid box. Consequently, the search and examination for each of Groups I and II substantially overlaps, such that there is no undue burden placed on the examiner to examine all of the subject matter of all of the presently pending claims. Thus, it is requested that the Requirement be withdrawn.

If any questions arise in the above matters, please contact Applicant's representative, Andrew D. Meikle (Reg. No. 32,868), in the Washington Metropolitan Area at the phone number listed below.

- Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.
- Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 7, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Andrew D. Meikle
Registration No.: 32,868
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant